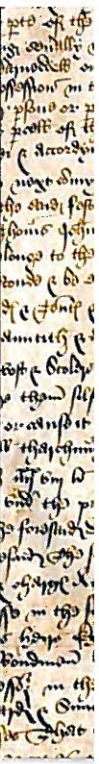


Perdita Manuscripts

"Wrapped in a stunningly beautiful package, combining all the functionality of the original catalogue with free-text and multiple search options, Adam Matthew's Perdita resource deserves to be used by everyone involved in early modern studies."

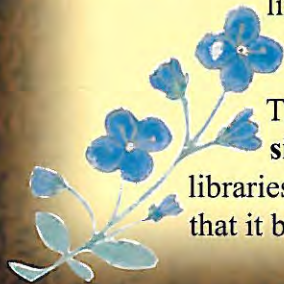
Dr Jill S. Millman
University of Warwick



This resource is produced in association with the *Perdita Project* based at the University of Warwick and Nottingham Trent University. “Perdita” means “lost woman” and the quest of the Perdita Project has been to find **early modern women authors** who were “lost” because their writing exists only in manuscript form. Thanks to the endeavours of the *Perdita Project* the valuable work of these “lost” women is being rediscovered. *Adam Matthew Digital* has now enhanced their path-breaking research by

linking their catalogue descriptions with full digital facsimiles of many of the manuscripts in an exciting new resource.

The manuscripts were written or compiled by **women in the British Isles** during the **sixteenth** and **seventeenth centuries** and they have been sourced from archives and libraries across the UK and the USA. One of the key attractions of *Perdita Manuscripts* is that it brings together little known material from widely scattered locations.



The provision of a powerful searching facility, biographical and bibliographical resources, and **contextual essays** by academics working in the field, makes this an indispensable resource for students and researchers. Extensive metadata accompanies each manuscript, including: author or compiler; title; genre within document; folio details; descriptive overview; first line; last line; summary; and bibliographic reference. There are also details of the physical description of the document – with information on layout, binding, foliation and provenance.

One method of access to the material is by simple or **advanced searching** – which taps into all of these fields – but it is also possible to browse through the material using:

- Alphabetical listing
- Genre
- Repository
- Date
- Language

There is also a useful **searching aid** that allows you to generate searches from lists of the below:

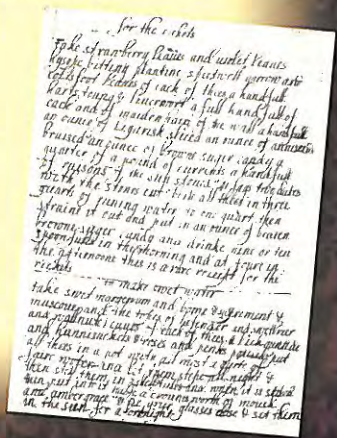
- Perdita Women
- Names in general
- Places
- Genre within document
- First lines; poetry
- First lines; prose



The manuscripts are remarkably varied in their content making this a **rich resource** for historians and literary scholars alike. Sources range from religious and devotional writing to accounts and receipt books; from poetry and drama to medical and culinary writing; and from calligraphic manuscripts to diaries describing everyday life. There are **nineteen beautifully illustrated manuscripts** by **Esther Inglis**, which will allow scholars to compare extant variants.



The remarkable seven volume diary of **Sarah Cowper**, 1700-1716, tells us much about her reading, relationships, religion and gossip. **Elizabeth Fowler** created in 1684 one of many recipe books contained in the collection and **Grace Cary's Visions and Revelations** c1650 offer a fascinating insight into contemporary religious beliefs.

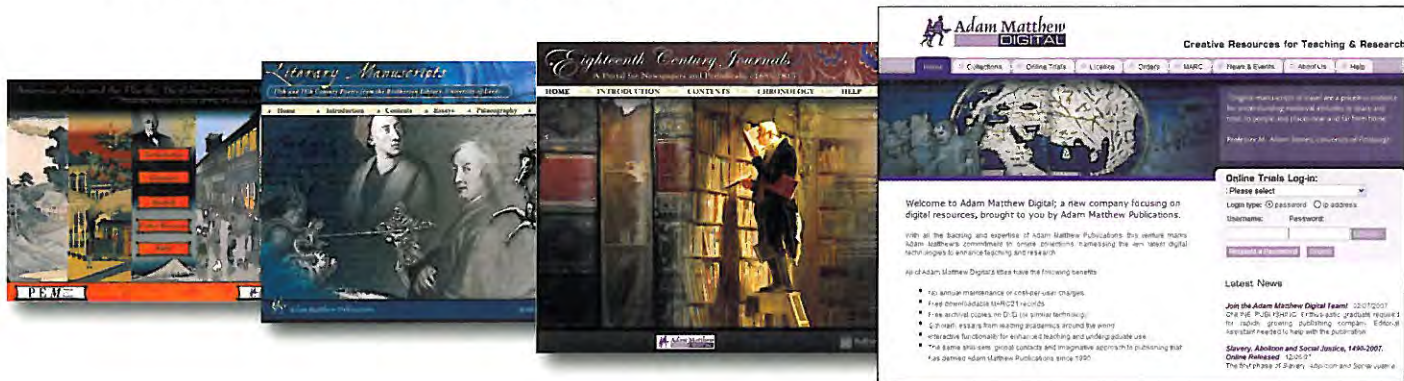




“The Perdita Manuscripts project is on the cutting edge of digital scholarship, allowing scholars to consult detailed descriptions and full facsimiles of early modern women’s manuscripts from a wide range of public and private collections through a simple yet versatile search interface.”

Heather Wolfe,
Curator of Manuscripts, Folger Shakespeare Library

Perdita Manuscripts is one of many titles published by Adam Matthew Digital.



www.amdigital.co.uk



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